VS SCRAPIE TAG MANUFACTURERS WEB PAGE

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GENERAL INFORMATION

? ? About

The VS Scrapie Tag Manufacturers Web Page is an internet web application which is designed to allow the manufacturers of animal identification tags to inform the agency of actual tags sent to customers. The system is designed to ensure that customers receive the tags which are appropriate for their use and that no numbering overlaps occur.

For further information on the Scrapie Tag protocols please consult the document *Identification of Sheep and Goats* which available online at the main VS Scrapie Web Page (http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/scrapie).

This document offers a **Step-by-Step** Guide to tag data entry for the user; as well as some basic information on errors and potential problems.

Additionally, information about the design of the system and the physical details of the transfer of the data from user workstation to web server to database server can be located in the section entitled **System Design Information**.

? ? Access

The Scrapie Tag Manufacturers Page is located at http://cofcs18.aphis.usda.gov/scrapie as of November 2002.

Depending on the web browser you are using, you may be informed that the Scrapie web page must be viewed over a secure channel. If this happens, simply use https instead of http (i.e. https://cofcs18.aphis.usda.gov/scrapie).

The user can access the system at the URL address given above by entering it into the **Address** line of the browser. Alternatively the user can simply go to the main APHIS Scrapie Information Pages web site (http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahps/scrapie). From this point one follows the link entitled **LOGIN REQUIRED** under the heading Scrapie Program Tools for Tag Manufacturers.

? ? System Requirements

This system uses some recent internet technology. As a result, the user is required to view the page using either **Microsoft Internet Explorer** or **Netscape Navigator**, versions **4.0** or higher. Earlier versions of these web browsers, as well as other brands of web browsers, will not work.

However, please note that each browser has minor differences in how it may render the page and accept input from the user. Most notably, **Netscape Navigator 4.0**

does not facilitate the same type of checks on user input as Internet Explorer, which may cause some confusion. Notable differences are addressed in the documentation below, when appropriate. For simplicity, nevertheless, **Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0** or **Netscape 6.0** or higher is **highly recommended**, for usability, but not required.

Furthermore, as the system is not located on the APHIS intranet, a direct connection to the APHIS network is **not** required, this system should be accessible from any internet-connected workstation.

Finally at the entry point the user will be required to provide a User ID and Password to gain access to subsequent pages.

STEP-BY-STEP TAG ENTRY DETAILS

Here are the detailed steps involved in entering tag ranges with version of the VS Scrapie Tag Manufacturer's Web Pages.

- 1) Obtain a User ID and Password for your tag company from a VS Scrapie Program Coordinator, if you do not have one yet.
- 2) Start your web browser, which must be Netscape 4.0 or MS Internet Explorer 4.0 (hereafter referred to as Netscape and IE). In the **Address** (sometimes called **Location**, or **Go To**) field, type the following:

http://cofcs18.aphis.usda.gov/scrapie



The system should direct you to the opening page which is the <u>Logon Dialog</u> (see FIGURE 1).

You can add a **link** to the VS Scrapie Tag Pages in your web browser by selecting **Communicator... Bookmarks... Add Bookmark** from the drop down menus on top. In IE, select **Favorites...** Add to **Favorites** from the drop down menus.



FIGURE 1: VS TAG PAGES LOGON DIALOG

3) Once your browser has been directed to the Logon Dialog (FIGURE 1) type in your APHIS-assigned User ID and Password in the corresponding text boxes. Press the **LOG**IN button to proceed. If you have entered a valid ID and connection combination, you should be directed to the <u>Customer Dialog</u> in FIGURE 2A. Otherwise you will see an

<u>Error Response</u> similar to FIGURE 2B. See the section entitled **Handling Error Messages**. Verify and re-enter your authorization information and try again.

SEARCH FOR A CUSTOMER ID			
The Scrapie Tag Web Pages need to know the VS identification of the tag customer with whom you are working today.			
Please enter your customer information below and press GO.			
VS Customer Type Tags can be sent to Flock Owners, Veterinarians or Markets.	Flock Owner •		
VS Customer ID You should have a USDA-assigned ID number for this customer.	NY10	Customer State The state this customer is located.	New York 📮
	(O (GO)→		

FIGURE 2A: CUSTOMER DIALOG
(SUCCESSFUL AUTHORIZATION)

OR,



FIGURE 2B: LOGON DIALOG ERROR RESPONSE (INVALID LOGON)

Once you have been successfully authorized for login (FIGURE 2A), you may specify which Scrapie program participant (hereafter referred to as a "customer").

4) There are currently three types of customers supported by the Tag Manufacturer's Pages: Flock Owners, Veterinarians, and Market establishments. Each type of customer are eligible for different types of tags, so you will need to choose the correct customer type from the drop-down box labelled VS Customer Type.

If you are sending tags to a **Flock Owner**, you will need to know the customer's **VS Flock ID**. If you are sending tags to a different type of individual, such as a **Veterinarian** or **Market** establishment, you will need to know the corresponding **VS Person** or **Premise ID** codes, respectively. Type this code into the box labelled **VS Customer ID**.

Then choose the customer's state location in the drop-down box labelled **Customer State** and press **GO**.

The system will attempt to verify the eligibility of the customer you have chosen. If successful, you will be taken to the <u>Tag Entry Page</u> similar to FIGURE 3B. If it encounters a problem, you will see be prompted to re-enter the customer information with an error message, similar to FIGURE 3A. Verify that your ID code is correct and you have chosen the correct customer type. In the case of a Flock Owner, that flock must also be enrolled in the Scrapie Flock Certification Program.

Contact one of the individuals listed at the bottom of the web page if you have further difficulty verifying a customer code.

Additionally, if you receive the error "Search Criteria Matched Too Many Times", please contact one of the support individuals listed at the bottom of the page, as this may indicate a problem with data integrity.

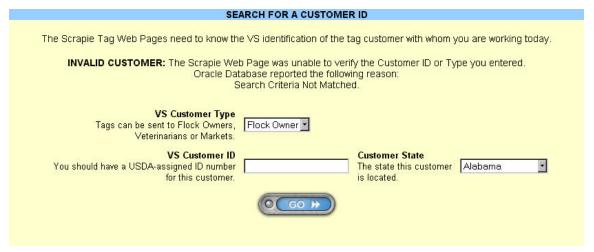


FIGURE 3A: ERROR RESPONSE (CUSTOMER DIALOG)

5) Once you have successfully chosen the customer to whom you will be sending tags, you will proceed to the <u>Tag Entry Dialog</u> (FIGURE 3B). The figure shows the Tag Entry Dialog for a Sample **Flock Owner**. Note however, that the Tag Entry Dialog for a **Market** or **Veterinarian** customer will look and feel virtually identical.

The screen presents some basic contact information for the customer, and in the case of a **Flock Owner** only, you will see the <u>Program Status</u> indicator which will read either

"Participating", "Pending", or "Not Participating", depending of the program enrollment status of the current customer. (This information does not apply to Veterinarian or Market customers).

You are working with an active customer. Please review the customer information below. Underneath that, you can find the forms for adding and viewing tag ranges for this customer.		
CURRENTLY LOGGED ON AS USER USDATAGS		
INFORMATION FOR ACTIVE FLOCK ID NY10		
Owner Name Address Telephone	Cobleskill Suny Animal Science Dept Cobleskill, NY 12043	
Contact Name Address Telephone	Suny Cobleskill Animal Science Dept Cobleskill, NY 12043	
Program Status	Participating	
* Choose a type of tag you want to distribute to this customer, enter the range information and press ADD. * You can also enter a tag number in either field (or a delivery date) and press SEARCH, to see list of ranges which cover that tag. * You are operating in single tag view. To work with a complete list view, press LIST. Tag Type The types of tags that your customer are eligible for are listed here. Starting Tag Number Enter a tag number at beginning of range to add or search for. Ending Tag Number Enter a tag number at the end of a range to add. Total Tags Shipped Enter the total number of tags shipped. Delivery Date Enter date tags were sent. Additional Remarks		
	ADD O SEARCH O LIST O (HBACK)	

Next you can see the actual tag range entry section. This is where you can enter information on the tag number ranges you want to send to the customer.

The **Tag Type** drop-down box allows you to choose the type of tag that the customer will receive. Currently the system supports four tag types. For further information on the different types of tags please consult the document *Identification of Sheep and Goats* which is available at the main VS Scrapie Web Page (http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/scrapie).

This drop-down box automatically contains the types of tags for which your customer is eligible. If a tag type does not appear here as you expect, you must contact one of the Scrapie Program personnel listed at the bottom of the page to determine the cause.

Once you have settled on a tag type to distribute to the customer, choose it in the **Tag Type** drop-down box. You will note that the **Starting Tag Number** and **Ending Tag Number** text boxes may change appearance to reflect the expected length of the tag type you have chosen (FIGURE 4). (* this does not work in **Netscape 4.0** - in this case you are responsible for ensuring that you type in tag numbers correctly!)

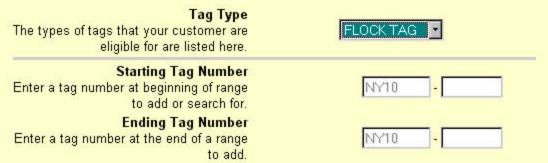


FIGURE 4: TAG NUMBER TEXT BOX EXAMPLE

In the example in FIGURE 4 you can see that the user has chosen a tag type of FLOCK TAG and that the text boxes are ready to accept the tag range numbers. Note that the start and end numbers are separated into two parts. The first part is fixed and required: this prefix portion is required by VS for recording the tag number. The second part is where you can type in your numbers.

If you make a mistake while entering a number, the page will warn you and you will need to correct the mistake before you proceed. Additionally, the page will not allow the entry of any non "alphanumeric" characters, such as %, * or \$.

Each tag type has different rules and relations for the prefix and suffix portions of the tag numbers when they are entered here. Again, please consult the document *Identification of Sheep and Goats* if you do not understand the tag number formats and why the page places certain restrictions on how you type the numbers.

Upon entering the starting tag number and ending tag number, enter the total number of tags in the field labeled **Total Tags Shipped**.

Once you have entered the total number of tags, choose a tag delivery date by typing in the box labeled **Delivery Date**, in the format DD/MM/YYYY (example, 07/03/2001). A much easier method is to click the little **calendar icon** to the right of the text box and choose a date from the pop-up calendar.

Type any comments in the **Additional Remarks** box, and press **ADD**.

The system will attempt to add the tag range you have entered. If you have made a mistake (for example, you attempt to enter a ending tag number which comes before a starting tag number) you may receive an error response similar to FIGURE 5A, and the system will present the Tag Entry Dialog again for you to retry your command. If the addition is successful, you will receive a message similar to FIGURE 5B, and the system will again present the Tag Entry Dialog so that you can continue adding ranges.

Unable to **ADD** tag range -- Start Tag (NY10A0099) must be 'less than' End Tag (NY10A0001).

FIGURE 5A: ERROR RESPONSE FAILED TAG ADDITION

Tag Range ADDED Successfully!

FIGURE 5B: SUCCESSFUL TAG ADDITION

If, however, in the special case that you attempt to add a range of tags which overlaps a previously entered range, you will receive a prompt similar to FIGURE 5C.

This may occur if, for example, you added a range of 1000 to 1100 and then attempted to add a range of 1025 to 1075, or possibly 950 to 1050, or even 950 to 1150. Note how these ranges contain numbers which are also contained in the original range.

Study the information presented to determine why the tag ranges overlap. If you are positive that the overlap is OK, you may press **YES** to record the new range anyway. An **Additional Remarks** box is provided if you wish to explain why you are recording an overlap.

If the overlap is a result of an error in your entry of the range numbers, press **NO** and you will return to the Tag Entry Dialog where you may try again.

If you are uncertain why there is an overlap, write down the range numbers which conflict, press **NO** to cancel the range addition, and email or contact one of the VS support individuals listed at the bottom of the page with the information to resolve the misunderstanding.

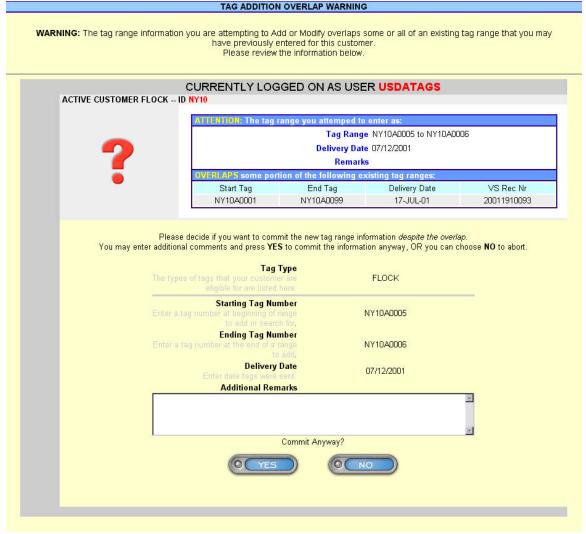


FIGURE 5C: TAG RANGE OVERLAP

6) Continue adding tags as described in Step (5) above.

At any point you can choose to Search for a Tag, List all Tags, and possibly Delete incorrect tag ranges. Consult the section below entitled **Viewing Previous Tag Range Data**.

* When you are finished adding and viewing tags, please exit the system by pressing the **LOG OFF** button on the navigation bar at the top of the screen, and exit your browser normally.

VIEWING PREVIOUS TAG RANGE DATA

At any time during the Tag Entry process you can view previously entered tag ranges by doing a search or general listing.

It may also be possible to delete previously entered tag ranges which are incorrect.

1) To View a List of All Tags for a given customer, follow the steps (1) to (4) laid out in the **Step-by-Step Tag Entry Details** Section above to choose a customer to work with, if you do not already have one active.

You will see the Tag Entry Dialog, just as in FIGURE 3B. Choose a Tag Type from the first drop-down box to indicate for which types of tags you need to see a listing. Then press **LIST**. If any tags of that type exist for the current customer, they will be presented in a <u>List Dialog</u> similar to FIGURE 6.

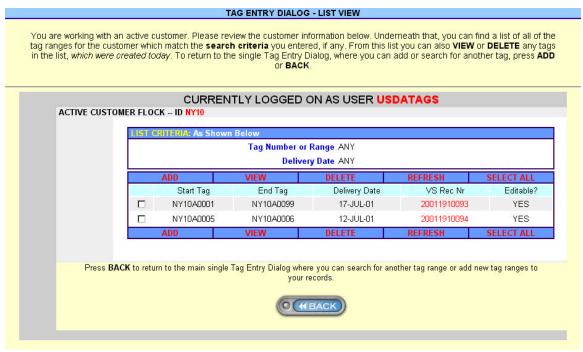


FIGURE 6: TAG LIST VIEW

Note that in the figure the **List Criteria** both show up as "ANY". This is because you chose to LIST all tags for the current customer, and no restrictions are placed on the system as it searches through the tags in the database. In Step (2) below, you can see how to perform a **Search** for specific tag numbers by narrowing down these List Criteria.

To view details for the a certain tag range in the list, check the box to the left of the tag range and press **VIEW**. Alternatively, press the corresponding entry highlighted in red under the heading labelled "VS Rec Nr". Either way, you will see a <u>Tag Range Detail</u> dialog similar to FIGURE 7.

VIEWING TAG RANGE NY10A0001 to NY10A0099

Details stored in and related to the record for the selected Tag Range are presented below.

You may remove the range by pressing **DELETE**.

When you are done reviewing the information, you may return to the Tag Range List View by pressing **BACK**.



FIGURE 7: TAG RANGE DETAIL DIALOG

This dialog shown in FIGURE 7 shows details about the tag range, your company and the customer too. If you are allowed to delete it, you can press **DELETE** to permanently remove the range from the database, otherwise the **DELETE** button will not appear (see below).

Press **BACK** to dismiss the dialog.

To delete a faulty tag range, check the box to the left of the tag range and press **DELETE**. Notice however, the column labelled "Editable?" If this reads **NO** for the range you want to delete, you are prevented from completing the deletion.

The concept in this case is that you can only delete tag ranges which were entered on the current day. If you enter a tag range, and come back tomorrow to delete it, you will find that the Editable line will read **NO** and you will not be able to complete the

deletion. In this case, you must contact one of the support individuals listed at the bottom of the page to perform the deletion for you.

This restriction is because each midnight the data is synchronized with a master database and once this sychronization takes place the web page is no longer able to affect any changes to the data (although, of course, you can still view the data).

To refresh the list view, press **REFRESH** at any time.

To return to the Tag Entry Dialog to add more tag ranges or change the search criteria, press **BACK** or **ADD**.

2) To Search for a Particular Tag or Tags for a given customer, follow the steps (1) to (4) laid out in the Step-by-Step Tag Entry Details Section above to choose a customer to work with, if you do not already have one active.

Then choose a tag type for which you are looking from the first drop-down box.

If you wish to search for a tag based on a certain delivery date, choose the date using the little **calendar icon** next to the **Delivery Date** text box.

If you wish to search for a certain tag number, enter the number in either of the **Starting Tag Number** or **Ending Tag Number** text boxes. You can also enter a range of tags to locate, just as you would enter a range to tags to add.

Finally, you can search on any combination of a delivery date and/or tag numbers. When you have entered your search criteria, press **SEARCH** and the results, if any, will be displayed in the same type of <u>List Dialog</u> pictured in FIGURE 6 above. Note that the **List Criteria** section will reflect the parameters you entered for your search above.

You can perform the same actions (View or Delete) on the tag ranges in the list as described in Step (1) above.

* When you are finished viewing and adding tags, please exit the system by pressing the **LOG OFF** button on the navigation bar at the top of the screen, and exit your browser normally.

HANDLING ERROR MESSAGES

? ? VS Scrapie Tag Manufacturer's Web Page Error Messages

The VS Handheld Upload System attempts to offer a descriptive report of any errors it encounters while processing and copying your data.

When you encounter an error dialog, it is usually "fatal", and it will always result in an aborted operation, and your only option will be to go retry the operation (example, reenter your username and password) or exit your browser and restart.

If the cause of the error is obvious to you, (in the example, the user entered an invalid username or password), you may be able to re-logon and correct the problem yourself.

? ? Reporting Errors

In you receive an error which you cannot correct yourself, you may need to contact the individual listed at the bottom of the dialog. In order for this support person to diagnose your error, please provide as much information as possible, including, at least:

- ?? Date and Time
- ?? User ID and Password
- ?? The operation you were attempting (example, tag range addition)
- ?? Any parameters you tried to use (example, start and end tag numbers)
- ?? A screen capture or the content of the error text listed in the error dialog

Without these critical items the support person will have a difficult time diagnosing your problem.

System Design Information

? ? System Directory Structure and File Locations

The VS Scrapie Tag Manufacturers Pages are located at http://cofcs18.aphis.usda.gov/scrapie

They should be located, as of July 2001, starting at <u>c:\inetpub\wwwroot\scrapie</u> on the corresponding Windows NT 2000 server.

This directory contains all (**php**) script source files for the system.

From here <u>/htdocs/inside</u>; from here there are at least three separate subdirectories:

\css contains all Cascading Style (css) files.

<u>\images</u> and <u>\images\slices</u> which contains **GIF** backgrounds, icons and rollovers.

\is contains all JavaScript files.

Further details on specific files, development environments, system flow and libraries can be found in the next section.

? ? System Files

VS Handheld uses the following technologies: HTML, CSS, Javascript, magic cookies, session management and the open-source PHP "hypertext preprocessor" scripting language, with the php_oci8.dll extension. Thus, a browser version 4.0 or later is going to be necessary.

PHP runs as an ISAPI extension to IIS in NT2000. To obtain the latest version of PHP or for assistance configuring the PHP extension, the corresponding PHP.INI file, or the Oracle OCI dll, click the link to the official PHP home page at http://www.php.net.

Note about cookies: This system uses cookies to maintain the DB connection string. They are of the "non-persistent" variety; that is, they are automatically deleted or inactivated when the user exits the browser or turns off the computer. Therefore, these cookies cannot be used for any nefarious tracking purposes.

However, since cookies have been disabled by many users thanks to unwarranted media paranoia concerning "privacy" and cookie enabled "tracking" of a users activities, the Scrapie Tag Manufacturer's Pages uses PHP's session management functions as an alternative means of storing state, which in most cases should be able to proceed even if the user has cookies disabled on the workstation. For simplicity, however, if the user allows cookies, the Scrapie Pages will use them.

APPENDIX

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